

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7194

S E C R E T DAMASCUS 2180

NODIS

FOR SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, PINT, LE, SY, US

SUBJECT: LEBANESE SITUATION

REF: STATE 084555 (RPTG BEIRUT 3109)

1. MET DAOUDI AT 1300L APRIL 10. FOUND HIM EUPHORIC OVER RAPID ACTION OF LEBANESE PARLIAMENT IN AMENDING CONSTITUTION.

2. I NOTED WE HAD HEARD THROUGH LUCIEN DAHDAH THAT "FRANGIE HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE SYRIANS" WHO HAD BACKED BROWN'S PERSONAL IDEAS RE THE SECURITY PLAN (BEIRUT 3109). COULD DAOUDI CONFIRM THIS AND GIVE ME ANY FURTHER PRECISION? HE REGRETTED HE COULD DO NEITHER. I RE-EMPHASIZED SECRETARY'S DESIRE STAY IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH DAMASCUS AND USE OUR DIPLOMATIC RESOURCES IN WAY SUPPORTIVE OF SYRIAN POLITICAL SOLUTION. DAOUDI AGREED THAT WE COULD NOT RPT NOT DEVELOP OFFICIAL USG PROPOSALS OR LINES OF ACTION ON BASIS SECOND-HAND INFORMATION, SAID HE ASSUMED FRANJIEH HAD DISCUSSED QUESTION DIRECTLY WITH ASAD BUT WOULD SEEK CONFIRMATION FROM PRESIDENT AND TRY TO GET ME AUTHORITATIVE STATEMENT.

3. SUGGEST PASS BEIRUT.

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MURPHY

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CAT-C, COLLECTIVE SECURITY, CONSORTIUMS, CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, DISSIDENT FACTIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: vogelfj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976DAMASC02180
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: P850107-2703
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t197604111/aaaaggan.tel
Line Count: 66
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 76 STATE 84555
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: vogelfj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <15 OCT 2004 by vogelfj>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 970923
Subject: LEBANESE SITUATION
TAGS: MPOL, PFOR, PINS, PINT, LE, SY, US, MPOL, PFOR, PINT, (ASAD, HAFIZ), (DAOUDI), (FRANGIE, SULEIMAN)
To: BEIRUT
SS
STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

